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PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE EMPLOYEE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George H. HOFFMAN, et al.  
Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM  
PRODUCT FOR AN OFFICE  
PRODUCTS SUPPLY CHAIN  
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK  
Appl. No.: 09/815,894  
Filing Date: 03/23/2001  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: 2161

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JAN 27 2003  
GROUP 3600

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR  
PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56 AND MPEP §§ 724.02 AND 724.04

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached hereto is a Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement submitting proprietary information to the Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and MPEP §724. Applicant respectfully requests that the information be considered only by the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, or other authorized Patent and Trademark Office employee.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

1/24/03

By

FOLEY & LARDNER  
Customer Number: 22428

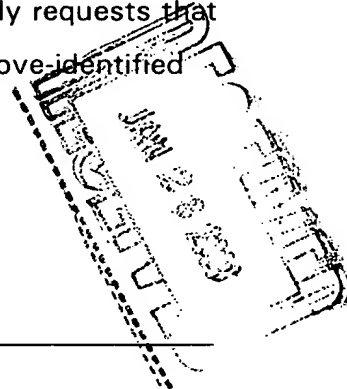


22428

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William T. Ellis  
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**PROPRIETARY INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56 AND MPEP §§ 724**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is a listing of co-pending U.S. patent applications, which relate(s) to the above-identified application.

| <u>SERIAL NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>SERIAL NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 09/ 815,729       | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,759        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,463        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,777        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,489        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,792        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,490        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,813        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,515        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,830        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,559        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,845        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,580        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,864        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,590        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,893        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,598        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,897        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,606        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,899        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,660        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,973        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,668        | March 23, 2001     | 09/815,989        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,688        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,021        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,715        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,033        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,725        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,048        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,727        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,069        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,731        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,075        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/815,734        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,083        | March 23, 2001     |

| <u>SERIAL NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> | <u>SERIAL NO.</u> | <u>FILING DATE</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 09/816,092        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,430        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,101        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,431        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,121        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,434        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,151        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,454        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,160        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,455        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,167        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,471        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,187        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,488        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,203        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,491        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,212        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,495        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,231        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,503        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,249        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,507        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,268        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,536        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,269        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,537        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,285        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,543        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,296        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,553        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,314        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,555        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,331        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,560        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,349        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,561        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,357        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,564        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,358        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,565        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,388        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,567        | March 22, 2001     |
| 09/816,412        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,576        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,413        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,582        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,414        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,881        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,420        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,896        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,421        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,922        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,422        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,944        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,424        | March 23, 2001     | 09/816,976        | March 23, 2001     |
| 09/816,426        | March 23, 2001     | 09/834,465        | April 13, 2001     |
| 09/816,427        | March 23, 2001     | 09/834,600        | April 13, 2001     |
| 09/816,428        | March 23, 2001     | 09/834,838        | April 13, 2001     |
| 09/816,429        | March 23, 2001     | 09/834,924        | April 13, 2001     |

Applicant considers the aforementioned documents and the disclosure of their existence as pending applications to constitute proprietary information. This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended as an admission either that the listed applications constitute prior art against the claims of the present application or that the listed applications are material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant assumes that the examiner will have access to all of the references cited in the applications. However, if the examiner wishes applicants to submit copies of the references cited in the listed applications, the examiner is encouraged to inform applicants.

Accompanying this Proprietary Information Disclosure Statement is a transmittal letter indicating that the materials contained herein are proprietary, as required by MPEP § 724.02.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(B) prior to the mailing date of the first official action.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the foregoing information and provide in the next official communication the information set forth in MPEP § 724.04(a), particularly the information under item (3), so that the applicant can, if appropriate, subsequently file a petition to expunge those materials, as provided according to MPEP § 724.05.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

1/21/03

By

William T. Ellis

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.